

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 PARIS 11544 071606Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----041484 071607Z /46

O P 071543Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9761
INFO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU
USMISSION USUN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT PRIORITY

S E C R E T PARIS 11544

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PBOR, UNSC, LE, IS, FR
SUBJ: SOUTH LEBANON

REFS: A. STATE 87019 NOTAL. B. BEIRUT 1917.
C. BEIRUT 1833. D. STATE 84729.

1. IN MEETING WITH QUAI ACTING DIRECTOR FOR NORTH
AFRICA AND MIDDLE EAST SERVANT AFTERNOON APRIL 6, WE
CARRIED OUT INSTRUCTIONS REFTTEL (APPARENTLY NOT SENT
BEIRUT) TO ELICIT FRENCH HELP IN PERSUADING THE GOL TO
ESTABLISH A FIRM SCHEDULE FOR SENDING ITS TROOPS TO THE
SOUTH. EARLIER DEMARCHE NOT FEASIBLE DUE ABSENCE

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SERVANT AND OTHER KEY OFFICIALS AT EC MEETING IN
COPENHAGEN APRIL 5). AS AUTHORIZED, WE DREW EXTENSIVELY
ON REF C TO DESCRIBE THE POINTS THAT AMBASSADOR PARKER
HAD MADE WITH PRESIDENT SARKIS AND THE TENOR OF HIS
COMMENTS ON THE DIFFICULTIES IN PERSUADING THE
LEBANESE TO ACT. WE ALSO HAD THE BENEFIT OF REF B
WHICH ENABLED US TO DESCRIBE CHAMOUN'S NEGATIVE

POSITION,

2. SERVANT APPEARED GENERALLY AWARE OF OUR THINKING IN THIS MATTER (FRENCH AMBASSADOR ARGOD SEEMS TO BE KEEPING THE QUAI PROMPTLY INFORMED OF HIS EXCHANGES WITH AMBASSADOR PARKER.) SERVANT AGREED WITH OUR ARGUMENTS ON THE NEED TO GET THE LEBANESE ARMY TO THE SOUTH AND WITH AMBASSADOR PARKER'S ANALYSIS OF THE DIFFICULTIES IN DOING SO. HE SAID HE THOUGHT HE WOULD BE ABLE TO HAVE INSTRUCTIONS SENT TO AMBASSADOR ARGOD THE NEXT DAY (APRIL 7) TO BACK UP OUR APPROACH WITH BOUTROS. WE POINTED OUT THAT BOUTROS SEEMED ALREADY TO AGREE WITH OUR POSITION. THE PROBLEM APPEARED TO LIE WITH KHOURY, CHAMOUN, AND (THROUGH THEIR INFLUENCE ON HIM) SARKIS.

3. ON THE SUBJECT OF THE POSSIBLE USE OF TYRE AS AN ENTREPOT FOR UNIFIL, SERVANT SAID THAT HE DID NOT DISAGREE WITH OUR VIEW OF THE PSYCHOLOGICAL AND POLITICAL ADVANTAGES OF USING THE PORT BUT THAT IT WAS A DECISION WHICH HAD TO BE MADE ESSENTIALLY ON MILITARY GROUNDS AND THE MILITARY APPEARS TO HAVE OPTED FOR ZAHIRANI.
HARTMAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TROOP DEPLOYMENT, ARMED FORCES, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978PARIS11544
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780150-1114
Format: TEL
From: PARIS
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780481/aaaacqlh.tel
Line Count: 85
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 7afd34b4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 78 STATE 87019, 78 BEIRUT 1833
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3040932
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOUTH LEBANON
TAGS: PBOR, LE, IS, FR, XF, UNSC
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/7afd34b4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014